

TRAFFIC COMMISSION
July 23, 2009 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Burbank Traffic Commission was held in the City Council Chambers, 275 E. Olive Avenue, on the above date. Joseph Terranova, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

Members Present: Joe Terranova, Chair
Brian Malone, Vice Chair
Barry Gussow
Robert Heins
David Justl
Dennis Hooper
Gregory Bragg

Members Absent: Paul McKenna, Rebecca Granite-Johnson

Staff Present: Ken Johnson– Traffic Engineering, Public Works
Karen McMurray– Administrative Analyst II, Public Works
Rabie Rahmani– Principal Civil Engineer, Public Works
Terre Hirsch– License and Code Administrator, License and Code
Joe McDougall– Senior Asst. City Attorney, City Attorney
Sgt. Kelly Frank– Traffic Division, Police Department
Melissa Schnitzius– Recording Secretary, Public Works

I. FLAG SALUTE

II. ROLL CALL

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: (Limited to items on the printed agenda or items regarding the business of the Traffic Commission)

A. Commission Member Communication

Mr. Justl thought the agenda was too short this month. He would prefer to have at least 6 agenda items per meeting, unless an item was thought to be too long.

Mr. Justl inquired about the status of City Council's response back to staff regarding the Commission Member terms.

Mr. Justl asked Mr. Johnson if California Independent Production Center contacted staff regarding the commercial parking permits the company applied for.

B. Staff Communication

Mr. Johnson stated he would be happy to add more items to the agenda.

Mr. Johnson replied that the Commission member term item has not gone to Council yet. He said it would probably go to City Council in August or September.

California Independent Production Center never contacted staff regarding the denied commercial parking permits on Evergreen Street reported Mr. Johnson.

C. Public Communication

LaVerne Thomas addressed the Commission regarding Item C- Summary of Traffic Complaints. She would be interested in seeing current traffic data. Ms. Thomas also expressed hope that the Commission passes the proposed Large Non-Commercial Vehicle (LNCV) ordinance on Item A.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Brian Malone moved, and Dennis Hooper seconded, to approve the minutes for the June 18, 2009, meeting. Mr.'s Malone and Hooper agreed to the amendments David Justl suggested. The motion, with amendments, was passed unanimously.

The amendments Mr. Justl suggested were:

1. The second paragraph under III. Oral Communications, A. Commission Member Communication should be changed to "David Justl also inquired about the status of another former agenda item, the Rancho Horse Keeping District signage. Mr. Johnson said that there was a modification to the signage, but he wasn't sure of the exact details. He said he would report on that status at the next meeting of the Commission."
2. The second paragraph under V. Reports, D. Status of Commission Membership and Tenure (formerly Item C) should be changed to:
"Dennis Hooper volunteered to fill Ralph Herman's position, which expires on June 1, 2010. Also changed was:
"It was mentioned that the Burbank Municipal Code suggests that commission members should be appointed so that, as near as possible, one-half of the member's terms expire every two years. Also changed was:
"Barry Gussow motioned, and Brian Malone seconded, to select option one. That is, Gregory Bragg, Rebecca Granite-Johnson, Dennis Hooper, and Paul McKenna will be appointed to four-year terms expiring on June 1, 2013. Barry Gussow, Robert Heins, David Justl, Brian Malone, and Joe Terranova will have their terms extended one year to June 1, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.
3. A sentence should be added to VI. Public Hearings, Public Hearing on Commercial Parking Permits on Evergreen Street to state," No representative of California Independent Production Center was present."

V. REPORTS

A. Approval of Revised LNCV Ordinance (formerly Item B)– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson explained the parking distances at intersections in relation to stopping sight distances. Mr. McDougall was in attendance to assist with any questions regarding the proposed ordinance. Mr. McDougall, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Terranova, Mr. Gussow, Mr. Malone, Mr. Justl, Mr. Bragg, and Mr. Hooper participated in the discussion.

Brian Malone moved, and Barry Gussow seconded, to amend the proposed ordinance so that LNCV's cannot park within 80 feet of any intersection of two public streets.

Motion passed four to three, with Gregory Bragg, David Justl, and Robert Heins opposing.

Brian Malone moved, and Barry Gussow seconded, to approve the ordinance as stated with the amendment regarding the 80 feet and the corrections changing the name from "Traffic and Transportation Committee" to the "Traffic Commission." It passed six to one, with David Justl opposing.

B. Taxi Cab Report (formerly Item A)– Terre Hirsch

Mr. Hirsch reported that the taxi cab license renewal period has concluded. He thanked Officers Turpin, Chang, and Lloyd, Sgt. Frank, and Lt. Puglisi for their assistance in the taxicab inspections. Out of the 130 taxicabs inspected, 16 did not pass the first time; however, on the second inspection all 130 cabs passed. Of the taxicab drivers, 156 have passed with one on probation. He, also, thanked Mr. Shatakhyan and Mr. Hovanessian for their assistance with the inspections.

Mr. Hirsch reported that staff is waiting for the City of Los Angeles to conclude their studies on the green taxicab ordinance before going to Council. *G & S Transit and San Gabriel Transportation have a plan to bring their fleet up to 75% green vehicles over the next three years. Since United Taxi already has 100% green vehicles in their fleet, it will bring the City's total up to 79% of green taxicabs.*

Mr. Terranova, Mr. Bragg, Sgt. Frank, Mr. Hirsch, and Mr. Justl participated in the discussion.

Note and file

C. Summary of Traffic Complaints– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that the two most common complaints are parking issues and speeding. Burbank has a very good accident history with very few accidents in its residential neighborhoods. He listed the intersections that have a high accident rate. Next month, Mr. Johnson will share the results from a third party study of the City's signal timing. Staff received a grant to improve two streets, *Glenoaks Blvd. and San Fernando Blvd.*, between Burbank and Glendale. Mr. Gussow, Mr. Justl, Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Terranova participated in the discussion.

Note and file.

D. Discussion of Meeting Dates in 2009– Ken Johnson

The members were briefed by Mr. Johnson regarding the options for meeting dates. The Commission could go dark in December if the members wished. Mr. Malone and Mr. Justl agreed that there are too many issues on the agenda that need to be addressed to go dark for a month. Mr. Terranova, Mr. Justl, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Malone, and Mr. Gussow participated in the discussion.

Brian Malone moved, and Dennis Hooper seconded, to change the original dates that interfere with the holidays. The meeting on November 26th will be moved to November 19th and December 24th will be moved to December 10th. It passed unanimously.

E. Status on Medical Transportation Services– Ken Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that Los Angeles hasn't done anything to simplify the process for licensing ambulances yet. Staff is asking for direction from the Commission on how to proceed with the certification of non-emergency services. They are anticipating a change sometime in November or December 2009. Commissioner Justl suggested asking a representative from the Fire Department to give a more expert opinion. Commissioner Malone added that representatives from Los Angeles and License and Code should also be invited to attend. Mr. Terranova, Mr. Justl, Mr. Hooper, Mr. Malone, and Mr. Gussow participated in the discussion.

Note and file.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Traffic Calming (March 08)– Johnson
- Discussion of Parking in Magnolia Park (March 2009)– Terranova
- Commercial Vehicle Parking Restrictions (July 2008)– Johnson
- Signal Timing Discussion (August 2008)– Terranova
- Accident and Citation statistics for review (October 2008)– Flad
- Discussion on bike lanes on streets (December 2008)– Terranova
- Marked and Unmarked Crosswalks in Magnolia Park (March 2009)– Johnson
- Medical Transportation (February 2009)– Terranova
- Parking of Vehicles containing Banners on Olive Ave. Bridge over Ventura Freeway (April 2009)– Justl
- Street sweeping hours during school dismissal time (June 2009)– Bragg
- Status on truck routes (June 2009)– Justl

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Johnson, Traffic Engineer
KJ: ms